

The Eaton Village Residents Association

Spring Newsletter 2014

www.eatonvillage.co.uk



REPORT OF 2013 AGM

Our thanks again go to the Eaton Golf Club for hosting a very successful AGM. Thanks were expressed to Barbara Heighes and Thelma Cooke who were not standing for re-election onto the committee. We were pleased to announce that Pat Seadon, who had been co-opted during the year, and Sarah Cross had offered themselves as secretary and treasurer respectively and were duly elected. Other members elected were Gerald Cooke (chairman) 453164; Chris Stebbing (vice-chairman); Sharon Atkinson, Rosemary Benton; Helen & Chris Preston. Since the AGM Helen Preston has resigned and Jane Miller has been co-opted.

With a change of format for the second half of the meeting, those present were asked what ideas they had for making improvements to our village. Ideas included: adjustment of barriers on footpaths for access by wheelchairs; improvement to play areas, improving communication and an anniversary event on Marston Marshes: <https://www.facebook.com/eatonvillageresidentsassociation>

EATON VILLAGE SCARECROW FESTIVAL 2014

We will once again be running the Eaton Village Scarecrow Festival and Competition in July. **The 2014 Eaton Village Scarecrow Festival will be held over the week-end of 19th and 20th July.** The format will be similar to previous years with formal judging of entries on the Saturday and a trail map and voting form for Residents to vote for their favourites over the week-end. The theme this year will be '**Scary Fashions**'. Waitrose has once again generously agreed to sponsor the prizes. Entry forms will be distributed to residents in May with the Parish Summer School leaflets but will also be available from the EVRA Website at www.eatonvillage.co.uk. Closing date for entries will be Monday 7th July 2014. Why not join us on our Facebook page at "Eaton Village Scarecrow Festival 2014" <https://www.facebook.com/groups/EatonScarecrows/>

Marston Marshes Activities

Dyke dipping for water mini-beasts Wednesday 28th May 2014 – led by Matthew Davies, Norwich Fringe Project. Wondering what to do with your children this spring half term? Join us for a family day out on Marston Marshes to search for water mini-beasts. We will be dipping the marshes dykes in search of water scorpions, back swimmers and dragon fly lava. We will provide all the dipping equipment and be running **four 1 hour sessions** during the course of the day at the following times: **10am to 11am : 11am to 12noon : 12.30pm to 1.30pm : 1.30pm to 2.30pm**. Contact Chris Stebbing to book on Nor 503301 or email: evra.vc@live.co.uk

MARSTON MARSHES VOLUNTEER GROUP

A group of local Residents have continued to work with the Norwich Fringe Project to maintain the path across Marston Marshes as well as undertake other conservation work. These community work days are a good, sociable day out, in a healthy environment right on our doorstep. The community work days provide an opportunity to learn new skills and gain a better understanding of the local environment.

Since the previous Newsletter we cleared an area of willow scrub in October and replaced a bench on Marston Lane in February. New volunteers of all ages are always welcome to join us. We generally meet quarterly under the guidance of Matt Davies from Norwich Fringe who provides training, tools and refreshments. Matt also runs conservation work days at other sites around Norwich and anyone can take part in these activities. Details of our next community work days on Saturday 26th April and Saturday 12th July 2014 can be found on our website.

We also post details of other conservation days organised by Matt. See the Marston Marshes Volunteer Group page on the EVRA Website for photos and more information about our activities, dates and contact points: www.eatonvillage.co.uk

FROM THE COMMITTEE

FOOTPATHS – There are still some footpaths in the area which do not allow wheelchairs and push chairs to pass. We are working with the council to try and get these adjusted, not removed, whilst continuing to be a deterrent for unauthorised vehicles.

DEFIBRILLATOR – Support is being given for one to be available in the village and Waitrose have agreed to host it. The cost is approx. £1,000 plus costs of fixing it in a suitable position. In conjunction with our Councillors we are seeking to raise this money for which the EVRA bank account is being used. All donations, marked clearly for this project, may be put in the EVRA letter box in Waitrose along with your subscriptions. Any surplus funds raised will be put to future EVRA projects such as playground improvements.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Another year has passed and subscriptions are again due. An envelope comes with this newsletter in which to put your £1.00 subscription. Please put your name and address on the front so that we can enrol your household as a member.

Thank you to those who send kind words of encouragement with their subscriptions and to those who generously give more than the requested £1.00.

Please return your envelope to one of the addresses on the envelope or place it in the EVRA letter box, next to the cash machine, in Waitrose. We also thank Waitrose management for their continued support for EVRA and its residents.

EATON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Much has happened recently with the school going into special measures and the short cut from Eaton Rise across the back of the CNS School being closed. We hope these will soon be resolved satisfactorily.

Updates and further details will be published on the EVRA Website.

Eaton War Memorial

Plans are in hand to have the War Memorial cleaned to mark the 100th anniversary of the First World War. Further details will be available shortly.

WENTWORTH GARDENS

Work has begun on clearing, pruning and re-planting the trees and shrubs around the site. A quarter of each of the two sections to be replaced will be done at intervals over about 16 years allowing the replanted areas to become established before removal, etc of the next section.

We expect the play area to be opening shortly.

CITY COUNCIL

Congratulations to Judith Lubbock, one of the Eaton City Councillors, on being chosen to be Lord Mayor of Norwich for the forthcoming year commencing on 10th June.

GENERAL INFORMATION

NORWICH SOUTH SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM request you continue to be vigilant and keep your homes safe by keeping external doors locked to deter the opportunistic burglars.

CRINGLEFORD DOG SHOW being organised by the South Norwich Rotary Club on May Bank Holiday, Monday 5th May, on Cringleford Rec. **has been cancelled.**

34th NORWICH (St. Andrew's) SCOUT GROUP are having their Annual Egg Sale during the fortnight beginning 24th March and will be calling on most houses in the Village. A reminder will be put through letterboxes the week before. Please help the group by buying or giving eggs or by making a donation to group funds when they call.

*Please also support their waste paper collections by leaving it on the footpath outside your home by 10.00am on the **first** Sunday each month (**not** Jan. & Aug.).*

These are two of their main fund raising activities.

SUMMER SCHOOL – The parishes of St. Andrew and Christ Church will again be organising this annual event. It is open to all who want to join in. Please look through the information brochure when distributed in May and make an early booking. All the Scarecrow Festival information will also be there.

BUS SERVICES – Since the change of route, number and provider, the route no. 52 run by Connect has been much improved in its punctuality with a better quality of bus. Simonds Coaches continue to provide the 121 service on Sundays with four journeys to and from the Bus Station.